

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 DOHA 00897 231050Z

11
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 DODE-00 EB-07 MC-02 ACDA-05 /057 W
----- 033066

R 230940Z JUL 75
FM AMEMBASSY DOHA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0716

S E C R E T DOHA 897

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MASS QA US
SUBJ: ARMS SUPPLY RELATIONSHIP WITH QATAR

REF: A) STATE 126783; B) STATE 171967 (091415Z JUL 75,
DALC WASHDC); C) DOHA 0756; D) KUWAIT 5088 (1974)

1. ON JULY 23 I MADE PRESENTATION BASED ON REFS A AND B
TO BRIGADIER MUHAMMAD AL ATTIYAH, DEPUTY COMMANDER IN CHIEF OF
THE QATAR ARMED FORCES, OUTLINING GUIDELINES FOR POSSIBLE US
ARMS SUPPLY RELATIONSHIP WITH QATAR AND PROVIDING P AND A
INFORMATION ON ITEMS IN WHICH ATTIYAH HAD EXPRESSED INTEREST.
I LEFT WITH ATTIYAH A CONFIDENTIAL LETTER CONTAINING P AND A
DATA AND EXPLANATIONS OF POSSIBLE PRICE DIFFERENTIALS ON
105MM HOWITZER AND PROBLEM OF PRESENT UNAVAILABILITY OF 1/4
TON WEAPONS CARRIER. I EXPRESSED REGRET THAT IT HAD TAKEN
SEVEN MONTHS TO ANSWER HIS ORIGINAL REQUEST.14

2. ATTIYAH THANKED ME FOR PRESENTATION, WHICH HE SAID WOULD BE
CAREFULLY STUDIED. HE REMARKED THAT SINCE QATAR WAS NOT A "FRONT
LINE" COUNTRY, ITS ARMS REQUIREMENTS WERE MODEST AND ITS PRO-
CUREMENT POLICY CAUTIOUS AND UNHURRIED. HE NOTED THAT GOQ HAS
BEEN SHOPPING IN SPAIN, FRANCE, BELGIUM, U.K. AND BRAZIL, BUT
HAD MADE NO RPT NO MAJOR COMMITMENTS.

3. COMMENT: WE SHOULD NOT RPT NOT HOLD OUR BREATH FOR
QATARI RESPONSE. AS PREVIOUSLY REPORTED REF C, AND NOW CON-
FIRMED BY ATTIYAH, QATARIS ARE EXPLORING A NUMBER OF ARMS
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PROCUREMENT SOURCES,AND IT APPEARS THAT THEY WILL MAKE ANY

PROCUREMENT SOURCE DECISIONS IN THEIR OWN GOOD TIME.

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Message Attributes

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